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Wavelike Dark Matter Searches with SRF Cavities and Superconducting Qubits at SQMS

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SQMS, Fermilab

Outline

- 1. Motivation for ultra-high Q haloscopes
- 2. SERAPH: SRF haloscopes for wavelike dark matter searches
 - 1. Dark photon dark matter searches.
 - 2. Widely-tunable SRF cavities.
 - 3. Mitigating SQL noise with transmon qubits.
 - 4. Axion searches with magnetically-resilient SRF cavities



SQMS and Fermilab

Credit: A. Grasselino

How far can we push quantum sensors and superconducting technology for fundamental physics searches?

SUPERCONDUCTING QUANTUM





Quantum Sensing: new windows into fundamental physics



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For this talk, we focus on dark matter





What is Dark Matter? Can it be Axions? Dark Photons?



Microwave Axion Photon Hidden Microwave Photon Photon **Magnetic Field** Credit: A. Dixit Feeble interaction with photons. We can look for that.



Haloscope Search for Dark Matter



Microwave cavities can be used to detect dark photons and axions.

Dark photon searches don't need B-field.

Looking for $< 10^{-24}$ W signal over wide range of frequencies.



No axions were found (yet).



No discovery, but still progress because of the excluded parameter space. But a lot more

parameter space left to explore.

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No dark photons have been found yet either.



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SRF Cavities for Dark Matter Searches



Compared to copperbased searches



Credit: N. Du

SQMS $\rightarrow Q \approx 10^{10}$

ADMX and CAPP $\rightarrow Q \approx 10^5$

High Q allows for larger signal and lower noise floor. **Possibly factor 10⁵ increase in instantaneous scan rate.**

Instantaneous scan rate is proportional to \mathbf{Q}_L



More details: arXiv:2208.03183

For virialized axions $\frac{\mathrm{d}f}{\mathrm{d}t} \sim Q_L Q_{DM} \left(\frac{\eta \chi^2 m_{A'} \rho_{A'} V_{eff} \beta}{\mathrm{SNR}T_n (\beta + 1)}\right)^2$ even if $Q_L \gg Q_{DM}$ Signal power $P_s \propto \min(Q_L, Q_{DM})$ Noise power reduces with Q₁. Tuning steps $\Delta f \propto \Delta f_{DM}$. Cavity sensitive to distribution of possible DM rest masses.



There's a catch though...

Superconductors don't like magnetic fields (Meissner effect). Magnetic fields can destroy superconductivity.





Credit: TED

We need the magnetic field to look for axions. More on this later, but we can still use superconducting cavities without a magnetic field to look for dark photons.



SERAPH: SupERconducting Axion and Paraphoton Haloscope

Family of SQMS SRF haloscope experiment. Name works on different levels.







Seraphine





SERAPHv1: Parasitic Search for Dark Photons





Excluded Dark Photon Parameter Space





In review purgatory. Measurements recently performed to address reviewer comments.

arXiv:2208.03183



Deepest sensitivity: Ultrahigh Q for Dark photon DM



DPDM search in DR with 1.3 GHz cavity with $Q_0 \approx 10^{10}$. Deepest exclusion to wavelike DPDM by an order of magnitude. Next steps:

- Tunable DPDM search from 4-7 GHz ("low hanging fruit")
- Implement photon counting to subvert SQL noise limit.



Noise calibration with Variable Temperature Stage







Measure Q with decay measurement





Microphonics



- Measured with self-excitation loop and phase noise analyzer+spectrum analyzer.
- 25 Hz RMS
- Mitigated by turning off pulse tubes (7 Hz RMS), but not viable for a dark matter search.



FFT of PNA measurement



Microphonics and Frequency Modulation

Creates modulation of dark matter signal. Power gets spread into sidebands.



Microphonics and Frequency Modulation

Creates modulation of dark matter signal. Power gets spread into sidebands.



Modulation Frequency f_m (Hz)	Detuning Amplitude f_{Δ} (Hz)	Modulation Index $\frac{f_m}{f_{\Delta}}$	Carrier amplitude (dBc)	Sideband amplitude (dBc)
14.3	5.5	0.4	-0.32	-14.5
57.2	18.2	0.3	-0.22	-16.1



Carrier band attenuated by 0.54 dBc. DM signal attenuated $\eta \approx 0.88$

Might recover if analysis looks for sidebands.



Tunable search with 1.3 GHz Cavity (SERAPH v1.1)



 $T_{cav} = 1.4 \text{ K}, Q_L = 2.4e8. \text{ Very}$ overcoupled.



Similar experiment posted by Chinese collaboration

SRF Cavity Searches for Dark Photon Dark Matter: First Scan Results

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We present the first use of a tunable superconducting radio frequency cavity to perform a scan search for dark photon dark matter with novel data analysis strategies. We mechanically tuned the resonant frequency of a cavity embedded in the liquid helium with a temperature of 2 K, scanning the dark photon mass over a frequency range of 1.37 MHz centered at 1.3 GHz. By exploiting the superconducting radio frequency cavity's considerably high quality factors of approximately 10^{10} , our results demonstrate the most stringent constraints to date on a substantial portion of the exclusion parameter space, particularly concerning the kinetic mixing coefficient between dark photons and electromagnetic photons ϵ , yielding a value of $\epsilon < 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$.





FIG. 1: Left: the single-cell SRF cavity equipped with frequency tuner. Right: Schematic of the microwave electronics for DPDM searches. The VNA measures the net amplification factor G_{net} of the amplifier circuit consisting of an isolator, a HEMT amplifier and two roomtemperature amplifiers. The noise source and the spectrum analyzer calibrate the resonant frequencies f_0^i . The time-domain signals from the SRF, with sequential amplification, are finally recorded by the spectrum analyzer.

LHe vertical test stand facility at Fermilab







Deepest sensitivity: Ultrahigh Q for Dark photon DM



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Simulated and measured modes



Straightforward tuning. No mode crossings. Good agreement between measurement and simulation.

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Measured Unloaded Q with decay measurement





Simulated effective volume







Lots of microphonics in a helium bath



Microphonics with SEL + Phase Noise Analyzer



Can destabilize microphonics if there's too much energy in the system.

The RMS of the microphonics is 4.6 kHz!

Currently brainstorming how to mitigate.



Subverting SQL noise with qubit-based photon counting





SQL noise: hf/k 240 mK @ 5 GHz

dominates compared to 30 mK thermal photons.

Regularly perform photon counting with dispersive measurements.

Superconducting qubit in SRF cavity.

Quantum protocols counts photons non-destructively.



Detour: The Transmon Qubit

Transmon device image



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Detour: The Transmon Qubit



Count Photons with Superconducting Qubits

$${\cal H}/\hbar = \omega_c a^\dagger a + {1\over 2} (\omega_q + 2\chi a^\dagger a) \sigma_z$$

Qubit frequency depends on # of photons.

Can avoid quantum noise if you just count the number of photons and don't try to measure their phase.

We can use superconducting qubits to count microwave photons inside the cavity.



Current photon counting scheme



Measurements performed by Taeyoon Kim





Qubit T1 ~ 150 µs. Readout rate is 1/ms



Parity measurement maps cavity state onto qubit



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Photon counting results



Parity measurement where qubit is prepared in ground state and we apply two $+\pi/2$ pulses.

With perfect readout: lg> corresponds to 1 photon. le> corresponds to 0 photon.

Can use fidelity matrix and characteristics of the system to derive dark photon limit.



Why we need photon counting



$$V_c = 136 L \times \left(\frac{f}{1 G H z}\right)^{-3}$$
$$Q_L = 80\ 000 \times \left(\frac{f}{1 G H z}\right)^{-\frac{2}{3}}$$
$$n_c = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{hf}{k_b T}\right) - 1}$$

SQL noise dominates at higher frequencies. Need to mitigate SQL.



Would take long time to scan DFSZ with single cavity



$$V_c = 136 L \times \left(\frac{f}{1GHz}\right)^{-3}$$
$$Q_L = 80\ 000 \times \left(\frac{f}{1GHz}\right)^{-\frac{2}{3}}$$
$$n_c = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{hf}{k_bT}\right) - 1}$$

Note: photon counting estimate doesn't yet take into account counter errors. Numerical estimates sensitive to engineering parameters.



If this would work in an 8T field



Sensitivity to **QCD axion** with single cavity and HEMT.

Just make $Q \sim 10^{10}$ cavities work in magnetic fields!



Nb₃Sn Cavities in Multi-Tesla Field R&D at Fermilab











Q_0 of 5×10^5 at 6 T, 4.2 K, 3.9 GHz

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S. Posen, M. Checchin, O.S. Melnychuk, T. Ring, I. Gonin, and T. Khabiboulline Phys. Rev. Applied **20**, 034004 – Published 5 September 2023



FNAL Nb₃Sn Cavities for ADMX and INFN

Initial R&D at Fermilab



High-Quality-Factor Superconducting Cavities in Tesla-Scale Magnetic Fields for Dark-Matter Searches

S. Posen, M. Checchin, O.S. Melnychuk, T. Ring, I. Gonin, and T. Khabiboulline Phys. Rev. Applied **20**, 034004 – Published 5 September 2023





Nb₃Sn tuning rod for ADMX Sidecar sent to U. Washington (w/ LLNL)







ADMX-EFR at Fermilab







Hybrid dielectric-Nb₃Sn cavity for INFN QUAX haloscope SOM S²⁰⁰⁰ ^{SUPERCONDUCTING QUANTUM} MATERIALS & SYSTEMS CENTER

 9 GHz Nb₃Sn cavity sent to INFN

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Summarize

- Ultra-high Q cavities have achieved unprecedented sensitivity to wavelike DPDM and can boost by scan rate by orders of magnitude.
- Progress towards photon counting and high-Q cavities in magnetic fields for axion searches. Will be enabling technologies for future axion searches.



